

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 27-31 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 27-31 have been rejected. Claims 1 and 27-30 have been amended. Claim 31 has been canceled, thereby obviating its rejection. Applicants maintain the patentability of claim 31; however, claim 31 has been canceled for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution of the present application.

Claims 1 and 27-31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Dola et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,451,107). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 27-30 are allowable over Dola et al. for the reasons set forth below.

The present invention as claimed includes an electrical connector receptacle that comprises a housing, a metallic cover extending over the housing and terminating in a grounding contact adjacent the first face of the housing for mating with a printed circuit board, and an additional grounding contact adjacent the second face of the housing for mating with the printed circuit board. An exemplary receptacle 10 is shown in Figure 1, and comprises a housing 14 with two faces 16 and 18. A metallic cover 24 is provided with grounding contact 36, along with an additional grounding contact 38. Both grounding contacts mate with the printed circuit board.

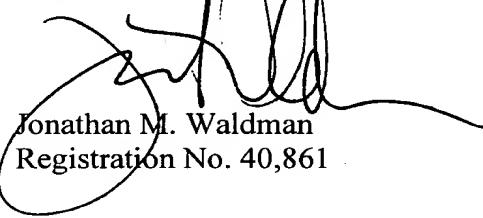
Dola merely describes a metal housing 45 having an integral ground pin 49 that is soldered to a circuit board (the mother board 60), and an integral ground pin 16 that is soldered to a different circuit board (the daughter board 70). There is no disclosure or suggestion in Dola of a metallic cover extending over the housing and terminating in a grounding contact adjacent the first face of the housing for mating with a printed circuit board, and an additional grounding contact adjacent the second face of the housing for mating with the printed circuit board, as required by the claims.

Based on the foregoing, claims 1 and 27-30 should not be rejected as being anticipated by Dola et al. Thus, claims 1 and 27-30 are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 27-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

Please amend claims 1 and 27-30, and cancel claim 31, as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An electrical connector comprising in combination:
  - a receptacle comprising:
    - a housing having a first face and a second face and a plurality of conductive elements each extending from said first face to said second face;
    - a metallic cover extending over said housing and terminating in a grounding contact adjacent said first face for mating with a printed circuit board;
    - an additional grounding contact adjacent said second face for mating with said printed circuit board; and
  - a header [having] comprising:
    - a conductive housing comprising generally parallel end walls with opposed inner faces and a medial wall [is] interposed between said opposed parallel end walls, said medial wall having a first face and a second face wherein said first face of the medial wall is adjacent to the second face of the receptacle element and a plurality of passages extend between the first and second faces of the medial walls and a plurality of conductive signal pins pass through at least some of said passages and a separate grounding element is attached to the conductive housing of the header for contacting said metallic cover of said receptacle.
27. (Once Amended) An electrical connector comprising:
  - a receptacle comprising:
    - a housing having a first face, a second face, and a plurality of conductive elements each extending from the first face to the second face;
    - a metallic cover extending over said housing and terminating in a grounding contact adjacent said first face for mating with a printed circuit board; and
    - an additional grounding contact adjacent said second face for mating with said printed circuit board.
28. (Once Amended) An electrical connector comprising:

a receptacle comprising:

a housing having a first face, a second face, and a plurality of conductive elements each extending from the first face to the second face;

a metallic cover extending over said housing and terminating in a grounding contact adjacent said first face for mating with a printed circuit board; and

an additional grounding contact adjacent said second face for mating with said printed circuit board; and

a header [having] comprising:

a conductive housing comprising generally parallel end walls with opposed inner faces and a medial wall interposed between the opposed parallel end walls, the medial wall having a first face and a second face wherein the first face of the medial wall is adjacent to the second face of the receptacle.

29. (Once Amended) An electrical connector comprising:

a receptacle comprising:

a housing having a first face, a second face, and a plurality of conductive elements each extending from the first face to the second face;

a metallic cover extending over said housing and terminating in a grounding contact adjacent said first face for mating with a printed circuit board; and

an additional grounding contact adjacent said second face for mating with said printed circuit board; and

a header [having] comprising:

a conductive housing comprising generally parallel end walls with opposed inner faces and a medial wall is interposed between the opposed parallel end walls, the medial wall having a first face and a second face wherein the first face of the medial wall is adjacent to the second face of the receptacle; and

a grounding element attached to the conductive housing of the header for contacting said metallic cover of said receptacle.

30. (Once Amended) A receptacle for an electrical connector including a header having a conductive housing comprising generally parallel end walls with opposed inner faces

and a medial wall interposed between the opposed parallel end walls, the medial wall having a first face and a second face, the receptacle comprising:

a housing having a first face and a second face and a plurality of conductive elements each extending from the first face to the second face, and the second face of the receptacle is adjacent to the first face of the medial wall;

a metallic cover extending over said housing and terminating in a grounding contact adjacent said first face for mating with a printed circuit board; and

an additional grounding contact adjacent said second face for mating with said printed circuit board.